

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 DODE-00 NSCE-00
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, XA

SUBJECT: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FRANK'S VISIT TO
AFRICA ON COMMON FUND

REF: A) LONDON 05161; B) LUSAKA 1090; C) DAR ES SALAAM
1356 D) LUSAKA 1098; E) NAIROBI 4904; F) NAIROBI 5010
G) STATE 82918

1. POST MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF FRANK'S VISIT
IN BRIEFING FCO.

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2. FRANK'S CONSULTATIONS IN AFRICA ARE REPORTED IN
REFTEL'S B,C,D, E, AND F WHICH COVER ALL CONVERSATIONS
HELD IN CAMEROON, TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, AND KENYA. FRANK
REVIEWED FORMAL US POSITION TOWARD RESUMPTION OF COMMON
FUND NEGOTIATIONS IN EACH OF THESE COUNTRIES AS WELL AS
IN GABON. HE ALSO TRIED TO SUGGEST AREAS OF POSSIBLE

FLEXIBILITY IN U.S. POSITION WHILE ALSO STRESSING THE LIMITS OF THAT FLEXIBILITY. POST MAY DRAW ON REFTELS B,C,D,E, AND F FOR ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON AFRICAN RESPONSES TO US POSITION AND ON REFTEL G FOR US OFFICIAL POSITION. TIME WAS NOT AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION

WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN KINSHASA.
KHARTOUM LEG OF TRIP HAD TO BE CANCELLED BECAUSE OF AIRLINE SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES.

3. WHILE FRANK HAD IMPRESSION THAT MANY OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE SPOKE WOULD GIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO U.S. VIEWS ON FIRST AND SECOND WINDOWS, FORMAL POSITIONS OF GOVERNMENTS COULD BE DIFFICULT TO CHANGE BECAUSE OF G-77 DYNAMICS. TALKS MAY HAVE IMPRESSED AFRICANS WITH BOTH OUR SERIOUSNESS ABOUT ESTABLISHING A COMMON FUND AND THE LIMITS OF U.S. FLEXIBILITY, PARTICULARLY ON DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON FUND AND TO CREATION OF A SECOND WINDOW FOR OTHER MEASURES. TALKS MAY ALSO HAVE HELPED DISSIPATE WIDESPREAD MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT GROUP B PROPOSAL. TALKS ALSO CONFIRM THAT AFRICAN OPPOSITION TO WEIGHTED VOTING CONTINUES TO BE STRONG.

4. MOST GOVERNMENTS DID NOT WANT TO GIVE OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO FRANK'S PRESENTATION UNTIL THEY RECEIVED SOMETHING IN WRITING. WE ARE PREPARING A PAPER
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SUMMARIZING US VIEWS FOR THEIR USE. WE ALSO EXPECT THAT THESE GOVERNMENTS WILL WANT TO CONSULT WITH THEIR AFRICAN AND G-77 COLLEAGUES BEFORE REACTING.

5. IF ZAMBIANS CORRECT ABOUT CURRENT G-77 THINKING WE ASSUME RESUMPTION OF COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE BEFORE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER. IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT AFRICANS WON'T TAKE DEFINITIVE POSITION TOWARD ISSUES INVOLVED IN RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE MEETING OF THE OAU SUMMIT IN LATE JUNE/EARLY JULY IN KHARTOUM. THUS, WE WILL PROBABLY NOT KNOW UNTIL THEN HOW MUCH GIVE THERE MAY BE IN THE AFRICAN POSITION. WE INTEND TO FOLLOW UP FRANK'S PRESENTATION IN CAPITALS AND ELSEWHERE BETWEEN NOW AND THE OAU SUMMIT AND ARE THINKING OF HOLDING BILATERALS DURING THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 27-28 IN MEXICO CITY AND AT THE OVERVIEW MEETING IN NEW YORK IN EARLY MAY.
VANCE

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